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## BEFORE BAUER, THERE WAS RYAN

JACK'S BACK, AND THIS TIME IT'S CHRIS PINE TAKING ON THE ROLE OF THE TERRORIST-THWARTING TOM CLANCY CHARACTER

PAGE 14



Meet Damon Bennett only at the

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## CONCRETE CANUCKS

University of Alberta engineering students Alex May, Dan Schwartz and Ryan Cusveller pose with their concrete toboggan. The trio, along with several other team members from the school, will travel to London, Ont., to take part in a national competition. See page 6 for more on the story.

RYAN TUMILTY/METRO

# Oilers fan can't find a home for 'Lowe has to go' dough

**Conflict of interest.**  
Team funds several charities targeted by donor who campaigned to oust president

LEAH  
GERMAIN  
leah.germain@metronews.ca

An Edmonton man hoping to use Oilers outrage to fuel charitable giving said he can't give his money away.

John, who asked that his last name not be published, kicked off a Facebook campaign earlier this month to garner support to oust Oilers president Kevin Lowe.

After distributing stickers around the city, the "Lowe has to go" campaign now has plans to sell T-shirts and donate that cash to a local charity.

But John said no charity, in-

cluding the Stollery Children's Hospital Foundation, is interested in the cash.

"The whole problem with that is that no charity in Edmonton wants to receive the funds," said John, who estimates he called about 15 charities Tuesday. "It always boils down to (the fact) they get funded by the Oilers."

"They don't want to rock the boat," he added.

A spokesperson from the Stollery foundation said that since the organization has a strong relationship with the

Edmonton Oilers Community Foundation, they didn't feel comfortable accepting money from the anti-Lowe group.

"(The Oilers) have been really supportive of our children at the Stollery Children's Hospital and we look forward to many more years of a great partnership together," said Aleesha Jex, a Stollery spokesperson.

Daniel Huber, owner of the Pourhouse Bier Bistro, has joined with John to distribute stickers and said he was motivated to get involved after watching the evolution of the team in the last five years.

"I've lived here for about 10 years, and some of the people who have lived in the city are some of the most passionate hockey fans ... I've ever seen in my life," Huber said.

John said that unless an Edmonton charity agreed to be involved with the campaign, he would have to take funds raised to a group outside of the city.

### Die-hard fans

"I hate to see ... how disheartened they have gotten over the last five years for a variety of different reasons."

Pourhouse Bier Bistro owner Daniel Huber

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## Electricity. Enmax wins city power contract

The City of Edmonton will turn to a Calgary power company to literally keep the lights on for the next five years.

The city announced Tuesday that Enmax was the winning bidder on the city's electricity contract to supply power to city facilities for the next five years.

The exact details of the contract were not released, but the city said it stands to save \$1 million per year on an electricity bill that last year cost \$38.4 million.

Through EPCOR, the city owns the electricity firm Capital Power, but Mayor Don Iveson said the city has an obligation to conduct a transparent and fair bidding process.

"The city is not directly in the power business and so, when we go out to the market, our interest first and foremost is getting the best deal for the citizens of Edmonton," he said.

According to the city budget, Edmonton received a \$141-million dividend from EPCOR in 2013 as the primary shareholder in the company, but Iveson said that can't be a factor.

Enmax president and CEO Gianna Manes said her company is pleased to have been selected and have the opportunity to provide the city power and reduce the energy costs.

"We really take very seriously that partnership aspect of this relationship and plan to bring forward our expertise to be able to help the city meet their particular goals," she said. **RYAN TUMILTY/METRO**



Jackie Anderson stands at the corner of the intersection where drivers can experience time-consuming delays. STEPHANIE DUBOIS/METRO

# Waiting is the hardest part, again and again

**City says EPCOR is working on lights.**

Long delays considered 'ongoing battle' for drivers crossing south LRT line



STEPHANIE DUBOIS

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Drivers on 40 Avenue and 111 Street are finding it consistently hard to cross paths with Edmonton's public-transit lines.

Jackie Anderson calls the intersection "a never-ending

battle" as she has been forced to wait in her vehicle for up to 50 minutes for the street lights to change and the transit gates to lift in both the east- and west-bound lanes on 40 Avenue that crosses the 111 Street LRT line.

"It's very frustrating sitting there, waiting," she said.

Anderson's commute is supposed to be only four minutes long, but she has struggled to get through the intersection in a timely manner on numerous occasions.

"I've had situations where I've watched not only vehicles but buses do illegal turns because they're running late for something ... and it's frightening watching people that could

### Details

- The Southeast LRT Line is the next portion of the LRT system that will be constructed.
- There are 15 stops on Edmonton's current LRT line.
- In October 2012, the south end of the LRT line had about 47,090 boardings.

end up killing someone."

Frustrated, she has contacted 311 several times to try to get answers to the intersec-

tion problem that has forced her to use a detour route in the past.

Anderson isn't the only one, with Transit Union of Edmonton spokesperson Brandon Van Alstine also forced to wait at the intersection.

"It would be nice to see the city try to integrate transit and vehicles so they don't necessarily conflict with each other when they build future LRT lines," he said.

City transit officials say the issue has been brought forward and that EPCOR is working on the area.

There is no timeline as to when the work will be completed.

1 NEWS

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## U.S. court. Edmonton sex offender pleads guilty to misdemeanour charges

A sex offender who fled Canada pleaded guilty Tuesday in a Seattle court to misdemeanour charges of harassment and resisting arrest.

The Seattle Times reports that 48-year-old Michael Sean Stanley was sentenced to 364 days in jail, with 154 days of that sentence suspended. He was also given credit for time served since his arrest in October.

"I got to be responsible for an action," the paper quoted Stanley as telling the court.

Seattle police arrested Stanley early on the morning of Oct. 22 after a series of calls about noise in a west Seattle alley.

After his arrest, Stanley was accused of sexually assaulting a 16-year-old boy. The Times said that allegation is still under investigation.

Police in Edmonton issued a public warning at the beginning of October when they



Michael Sean Stanley CONTRIBUTED

found that Stanley's electronic-monitoring bracelet had been cut off in Lloydminster, on the Alberta-Saskatchewan boundary.

Edmonton police said they warned U.S. counterparts that Stanley, who is an American citizen, might try to cross the border, but U.S. officials allowed him in after determining he was not the subject of an extraditable arrest warrant.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### 'Targeted'

#### Woman robbed of casino winnings

A Sherwood Park woman had her casino winnings stolen from her in what Strathcona County RCMP are calling a "targeted" crime on Christmas Eve.

The 59-year-old woman was returning from a casino on Argyll Road to her Sherwood Park home at around 1:30 a.m. with her undisclosed winnings when two men approached her in her driveway. The men are described as approximately 19-20 years old and 5-foot-7. Both were wearing tight black tuques. METRO

### By 25 per cent

#### Pension changes would gut benefits, Alta. unions say

Alberta union leaders say proposed changes to public-sector pension plans will result in benefits being slashed by 25 per cent starting in 2016. They say Finance Minister Doug Horner is proposing the changes to deal with a crisis in unfunded pension liabilities that isn't really a crisis. They say the \$7-billion unfunded liability will be paid down in the next decade through contributions by employees and government. THE CANADIAN PRESS



EEDC President Brad Ferguson told more than 1,000 local businesspeople Tuesday that he wants to see the region focus on telling its own story. RYAN TUMILTY/METRO

# EEDC prez predicts powerhouse status

### Image problem.

Ferguson says region has to keep innovating to overcome image of oilsands



RYAN TUMILTY  
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The head of Edmonton's economic development agency says the city has a bright future, but only if it steps out and starts telling its own story.

Edmonton Economic Development Corporation president Brad Ferguson told more than 1,000 businesspeople at the agency's annual Impact luncheon that Edmonton would be an economic powerhouse over the next 20 years.

"What we have here is unique. What we have here is special and it's our time to lead," he said.

Ferguson said the only thing standing in the area's way is the international image of the oilsands, which he argued, despite advances, is

### Trillion

## 2.1

The EEDC estimates that over the next 20 years, Edmonton and northern Alberta will produce \$2.1 trillion in economic output.

still a problem.

He said the only way to reverse that image was through constant innovation.

"That will extend the life of the oilsands as long as humanly possible. It will allow us to extract the most

value out of it," he said.

Ferguson said the money being generated in the oilsands has to be re-invested in research and development, including at local universities.

"This isn't a time to take your cards off the table with universities. It's time to double down," he said.

Mayor Don Iveson agreed with Ferguson's take.

"If we really want to thrive, if we really want to lead and have a great strong economy into the future, (the city) really has to innovate."



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# On your mark, get set, slide!



From left: Ryan Cusveller, Alex May, Mark Curley, Steve Duncan and Dan Schwartz sit in their concrete toboggan. The group of engineering students is set to compete nationally at the end of the month. RYAN TUMILTY/METRO

## Concrete Toboggan. U of A students geared up for national contest



**RYAN  
TUMILTY**  
ryan.tumilty@metronews.ca

It's 300 kilograms with skis made of concrete, and a group of University of Alberta engineering students is hoping

it will propel them to victory later this month.

The students and their concrete toboggan will travel to London, Ont. at the end of the month to take part in the Great Canadian Concrete Toboggan Race. The competition, now in its 40th year, pits engineering students from across the country against each other in race down the hill. Ryan Cusveller, captain of the U of A team, said they are excited for the competition. He said

the design work on their entry started in the summer, but since the fall they have been putting in serious hours.

"Come the fall semester, is when it really kicks off and it's when we actually start the groundwork on building this thing and we're just putting the finishing touches on it now," he said.

The competition rules stipulate that the toboggan can't weigh more than 300 kilograms and the "running

surface" (any part touching the ground) must be made from concrete.

Cusveller said his team had 10 separate concrete pours before they got their skis right and then built the rest of the sled around that.

"The entire sled is probably close to about 1,000 hours worth of work," he said.

The sled has a green twist this year with an unusual addition added to the concrete mix.

"We harvested old toilets that were headed to the landfill," Cusveller said. "It's obviously very sustainable and we get high-performance concrete out of it as well."

Cusveller is graduating this year and he said he thinks the hands-on experience he gained working on the project could help him garner his first job.

"There is definitely hands-on experience from building it that I think is invaluable."

## Nearly 7M passengers

### Airport sees record volume

There were more comings and goings than ever before at the Edmonton International Airport this year.

The airport released new passenger data on Tuesday showing that 6,983,000 passengers passed through in 2013, the airport's busiest year yet. "These record-breaking numbers show that Edmonton International Airport completed its expansion just in time," said EIA vice-president of passenger market development Traci Bednard.

It's 300,000 more passengers than in 2012 and included growth in international and domestic traffic. The airport also saw an increase in private charter flights with 26,000 landings last year, 30 per cent more than last year. **METRO**

911

### 44-cent cell fee coming this spring

Cellphone users should expect to see a 44-cent monthly fee for 911 calls added to their bill this spring, according to officials. The regulations on how the law will be applied is still being approved, said Melinda Sternbergen, spokeswoman for Municipal Affairs. The 44 cent charge could bring in \$16 million annually, former Municipal Affairs Minister Doug Griffiths said previously. **STEPHANIE DUBOIS/METRO**

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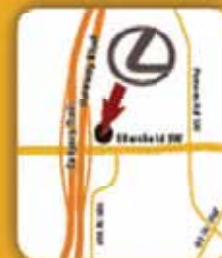
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This July 8, 2004 photo shows a Mexican federal agent crawling through a hidden tunnel, presumably used to transport drugs from Mexico to the U.S. The job of searching these networks can be dangerous, so the U.S. Border Patrol is unveiling its latest technology in the underground war — a wireless, camera-equipped robot that can do the job in a fraction of the time. DAVID MAUNG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

# Drug tunnels and the robots that patrol them

**U.S. border security.** With cartels turning to subterranean methods to smuggle drugs into the U.S., officials turn to technology to stop them

As U.S. border security has tightened, drug cartels have turned to tunnelling beneath the ground to avoid detection.

Nearly 170 tunnels have been found nationwide since 1990, most along the Arizona and California border with Mexico. The job of searching

these networks can be dangerous, so the U.S. Border Patrol is unveiling its latest technology in the underground war — a wireless, camera-equipped robot that can do the job in a fraction of the time.

Tunnel construction ranges from extremely rudimentary to very sophisticated, with lights, supports and ventilation. They can range from a few feet to nearly a kilometre long.

So-called tunnel robots have been in use by Border Patrol for several years. They can safely navigate through corrugated pipes, tunnels, and drainage systems while an agent controls the device from the sur-

face, seeing what the robot sees on a handheld screen. The robots are used, in part, as a safety measure to keep agents out of harm's way as many tunnels can be poorly built and possibly collapse and lack proper ventilation.

They also can navigate an underground labyrinth in a fraction of the time it would take an agent to explore the tunnel. Some of the newer robots, which weigh about 5.5 kilograms and can navigate through passageways that are only several feet wide, are being deployed this year across southern Arizona and California. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

## Political finance probe

**Firm owned by MP Del Mastro's cousin searched**

Two people who contributed to MP Dean Del Mastro's 2008 election campaign told investigators they were reimbursed at a profit by a company owned by the MP's cousin, court documents related to a search warrant request released this week show.

Investigators, backed by a technical unit of the RCMP, searched the offices of Deltro in Mississauga, Ont., last fall.

**THE CANADIAN PRESS**

## Stationery. Clement pays back taxpayers for second set of fancy business cards

Among Tony Clement's stack of Christmas bills this year was one to pay taxpayers back for a second set of gold-embossed business cards that broke government rules.

Clement, the Treasury Board president, used his personal credit card last week to reimburse his department \$195.98 for cards that were ordered back in 2011, when he first took the cabinet post.

The Jan. 8 payment was in addition to the \$434 he reimbursed taxpayers last month for another set of forbidden

gold-embossed cards.

Clement has now paid back \$630 for improper stationery, which he says was ordered in error by a staff member.

Each set of his cards featured the Arms of Canada decorated with gold leaf, an option that has been banned across government since 1994.

**THE CANADIAN PRESS**



**Tony Clement**  
THE CANADIAN PRESS



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# French pres. angry over tabloid story

**Overshadowed by scandal.** Hollande announced economic measures to encourage hiring Tuesday

Under pressure over a magazine report that he is having a secret affair with an actress, French President Francois Hollande conceded Tuesday he is going through "painful moments" with his companion but otherwise sidestepped specifics on his personal life.

Hollande's partner, journalist Valerie Trierweiler, has been hospitalized since Friday, when Closer published photos it said proved Hollande's liaison. Speaking at a major news conference, Hollande said Trierweiler "is resting" but insisted that the venue in

## Quoted



"Everyone in his or her personal life can go through ordeals — that's the case with us."

French President Francois Hollande

front of hundreds of reporters was "neither the place nor the moment" to discuss the issue.

The report in the magazine Closer showed photos of a man the magazine identified as Hollande wearing a motorcycle helmet and being ferried on the back of a small scooter to an alleged tryst with film actress Julie Gayet.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



## Referendum: Egyptians vote on a new constitution

An Egyptian man flashes the victory sign as he lines up to vote in the country's constitutional referendum in Cairo on Tuesday. Upbeat and resentful of the Muslim Brotherhood, Egyptians voted on a new constitution in a referendum that will pave the way for a likely presidential run by the nation's top general Abdul-Fattah el-Sisi, months after he ousted Islamist president Mohammed Morsi. KHALIL HAMRA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Expressions of interest

# Relocation of houses

The University of Alberta is seeking expressions of interest for the relocation of houses located in the East Campus Village district on its North Campus. Houses must be removed from the sites no later than May 2014.

Details can be found at:

[www.communityrelations.ualberta.ca](http://www.communityrelations.ualberta.ca)

The deadline for letters from interested parties has been extended to January 24, 2014, and should be addressed to:

Todd Werre  
Director, Project Management Office  
Planning and Project Delivery  
Facilities and Operations  
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Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2H1



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# The usual suspects: Wireless auction no serious threat to Big 3

## Spectrum auction.

Bidding for the 700 megahertz waves shouldn't topple Bell, Rogers and Telus

Bidding for a coveted piece of Canada's wireless market started Tuesday.

Experts say the 700 megahertz waves up for auction are particularly valuable because they allow cellphone signals to travel longer distances and penetrate buildings and tunnels where calls are often dropped.

The signal also requires fewer cellphone towers to provide coverage in rural areas.

Ten players are in the game, including Canada's big three telecom companies: Bell, Rogers and Telus.

### Fourth player?

The feds say they want a fourth national player in every region of the country to give consumers more choice and to help lower fees.

- A Scotiabank analyst said Tuesday regional telecom operator Quebecor may be interested in acquiring Mobilicity, a small and financially struggling wireless company that has been trying to find a buyer. Analyst Jeff Fan said Quebecor could potentially become a "solution to the government's fourth operator objective in British Columbia, Alberta and Ontario."

Among regional bidders are Quebecor's Vidéotron in

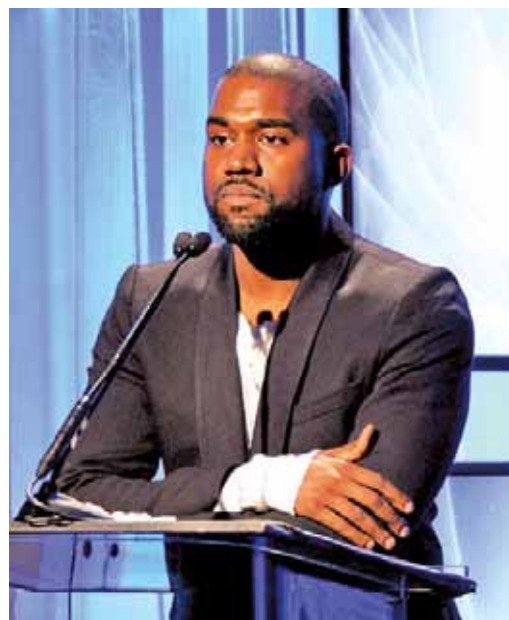
Quebec, MTS Inc. in Manitoba, Saskatchewan Telecommunications and Bragg Communications, which operates EastLink in Atlantic Canada. But Wind Mobile's parent, Globalive Communications, pulled out Monday due to a lack of funds.

It's expected to be weeks before Industry Canada discloses who won licences and how much they paid for them.

The previous auction in 2008 for different spectrum raised \$4.3 billion and ushered in a host of new players. But experts say lack of new competition means this auction won't likely raise as much money as expected, even though it's a more valuable piece of spectrum.

Hopes for foreign competitors to shake up the industry were dashed last fall when U.S. giant Verizon dropped the idea of expanding into Canada.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



## Yo, Coinye, I'm not gonna let you finish

Hip-hop star Kanye West filed a lawsuit Tuesday in federal court to stop production of "Coinye West" bitcoins, which he says unjustly cash in on his fame. West's lawsuit seeks to stop companies and individuals that have not yet been identified from exchanging the digital currency and also seeks unspecified damages for hurting West's reputation. As of Tuesday, the Coinye website stated, "Coinye is dead. You win, Kanye." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

### Multiple subscriptions

## We are still very attached to TV

The rumours of rampant cord-cutting have been exaggerated.

More than 2.5 million Canadian households will have multiple TV subscriptions, paying for TV through a traditional provider and at least one other online TV service, according to the Deloitte study, released Tuesday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

### Market Minute

**DOLLAR**  
91.34¢ (-0.86¢)

**TSX**  
13,692.38 (+10.90)

**OIL**  
\$92.59 US (+\$0.79)

**GOLD**  
\$1,245.40 US (-\$5.70)

**Natural gas:** \$4.36 US (+\$0.05)  
**Dow Jones:** 16,373.86 (+115.92)

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- Proficient on both Mac and PC platforms
- Ability to prep files for print production, including file stuffing (.sitx, .sit, .sea, .zip) and FTP experience
- Professional, personable, approachable with great communication skills (both verbal and written)
- Ability to thrive under pressure in a fast paced, multi-faceted and deadline driven environment with strong attention to detail (typography, copy, grammar, layout, images, colour, etc)
- Must be a quick problem-solver, who initiates projects and takes a pro-active approach.
- Must be highly skilled at multi-tasking, prioritizing workload efficiently, and tracking ad material.
- Post secondary degree or diploma in Graphic Design (Print)
- 3+ years design experience within a media environment

Interested individuals who possess the skills described above are requested to submit their resume and cover letter via email to [hr@metronews.ca](mailto:hr@metronews.ca) no later than Jan. 24, 2014. PLEASE QUOTE: "Graphic Designer - Edmonton" in the subject line. All submissions will be treated as confidential.

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# MUST LOVE DOGS, DRINKS, GOD

The Mona Lisa?

Fuhgeddaboutit! The ideal woman, according to the dating site Plenty of Fish, is: "A 25-year-old Catholic woman who owns a dog, describes herself as thin, and drinks alcohol three times a week."

This paragon of femininity is likely to receive more messages than any other woman.

I don't know about you, but she sounds a little high-maintenance to me. A potential three hangovers a week when she stays in bed and you have to walk the stupid dog ... and then you're expected to go to church on Sunday while she tends to her guilty conscience.

Oh, and she's smarter than you are, as somehow she already has a graduate degree at 25.

Unlike previous ideals such as Mona and Helen of Troy, this vision of female perfection is not the obsession of some mooning poet with bad facial hair, but grounded in science: a just-re-



**JUST SAYIN'**  
**Paul Sullivan**  
metronews.ca

leased survey of 81,000 online anglers at Plenty of Fish.

So, as you're (literally) making up your online profile, here are some other science-based tips:

—Dogs are good, but only in the abstract. Women who post photos of themselves with the actual Rottweiler don't get as many messages.

—Don't state your age as 33, because 33-year-olds get the lowest number of messages. Further research (random numerology websites) shows 33 people described as: "Healers, compassionate, blessings, teacher of teachers, martyr, inspiration, honesty, discipline, bravery, courage." No wonder. Who can live up to that?

—Finally, whatever you do, drink. Women who say they abstain from alcohol get 24 per cent fewer messages.

I guess this profile says more about the guys doing the fish-

ing than the female fish. The ideal woman sounds like the proverbial Good Sport. I'm surprised she doesn't come with a plaid shirt and a pickup truck.

But it doesn't matter what guys want, does it?

The ideal guy, as chosen by female fishers of men, earns between \$100,000 and \$150,000 a year. It helps to have a doctorate, MD or law degree. And, of course, you want to have children, even if you're too busy earning \$150k to remember their names.

You apparently don't have to worry about your age, but you should also have dark hair, so I presume that means you should still have hair. Also, the longer your, er, bio, the more likely you are to get a reply. Women like a man who can talk at length about himself. Right.

After reading this survey, I am no longer surprised about that other statistic: More than half of marriages end up in divorce.

Good thing there are still plenty of fish in the sea, even if they are 33.

## ZOOM

### Hella wicked sight made of sound



COURTESY DLR

#### Helicopter noise seen for first time

Scientists have revealed why helicopters produce the noise they do — by showing for the first time the sound waves from their rotor blades.

Researchers from the German Aerospace Center in Göttingen developed a way of taking pictures of vortices that form at the blades' tips.

METRO

#### Making vortices

As the rotor blades punch through the atmosphere, they create a vortex at their tips, caused by a difference in pressure around the blade (reduced pressure above the blade and an area of increased pressure below it).

As the rotors spin and hit the vortices of their adjacent blades, they produce the helicopter's distinctive "carpet beater" noise. METRO

#### Copter rocks it

In this image, blade-tip vortices are visible as dark lines during a complete rotation of the main rotor.

The engine exhaust flows are perceptible as a noisy area trailing the helicopter. The tail rotor's vortex system is also visible (black, circular lines on the tail rotor). The helicopter is pictured performing a rocking manoeuvre. METRO

#### Experts track bent light to spot sound

To photograph the vortices, scientists at DLR used a light-tracking technique called the Background Oriented Schlieren Method.

Light rays are refracted as they travel through sections of atmosphere with varying densities. This phenomenon is seen against a suitable background — in this case, a limestone quarry. METRO

## Clickbait



**LUKE SIMCOE**  
Metro Online

With Bitcoin becoming increasingly mainstream, hipster speculators and economic-rollercoaster fans are looking elsewhere for their crypto-currency fix. Bitcoin's software is actually open source, meaning anyone can copy it and make their own version. Here are some people who did.



COURTESY DOGECOIN

#### Litecoin:

Often described as "the silver to Bitcoin's gold," Litecoin was one of the first Bitcoin alternatives on the market. It's also seen a sharp rise in value, currently trading at about \$23 per coin. Unlike its predecessor — which required massive computing power to mine effectively — it's easier to mine with the average PC.

#### Dogecoin:

If you prefer your digital dollars in meme form, then Dogecoin is for you. Named after the smiling Shiba Inu dog who became the most popular Internet meme of 2013, the currency started as a joke but gained value as more users jumped on the bandwagon. Wow.

## Letters

**RE: Health Authority to Probe Deaths of 2 Patients Shortly after Hospital Discharge, published online Friday, Jan. 10**

I just wanted to comment on the story about the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority and the two people that died ... it is a horrible

#### Who is expecting them?

"Someone should know that they are going home!"

thing! But I don't think they should be passing the blame on to the Taxi Cab Board.

Sure, they likely should have a policy in place to make sure people get into their houses ... however, that is not the main problem or fault here!

It is the fact that the hospitals are not getting people well before they send them home, PLUS they are not phoning a relative or caregiver that they are releasing these people. Someone should know that they are going home! Then the problem would not be happening at all.

Rosemarie Menzies, Winnipeg

#### WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU:

Send us your comments: [edmontonletters@metronews.ca](mailto:edmontonletters@metronews.ca)



2  
SCENEChris Pine ready for duty  
as latest Jack Ryan recruit

**Man of many faces.** As the fourth Jack Ryan, Pine wants to 'stay true' to Tom Clancy's famous character



**IN FOCUS**  
Richard Crouse  
scene@metronews.ca

In your mind's eye when you picture ex-Marine turned CIA analyst Jack Ryan, who do you see?

Is he a dark-haired, suave six-foot movie star with a hot temper and a racy Twitter account? Or maybe a world-weary fellow with a scar on his chin and a resemblance to Indiana Jones? Or how about the Red Sox fan formerly known as Ben-nifer?

Created by writer Tom Clancy, Jack Ryan is the lead character in nine novels and the star of five films. This weekend we'll see him uncover a Russian plot to destroy the U.S. economy with a terrorist attack in Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit.

Chris Pine, best known as Captain Kirk in the recently rebooted Star Trek series, is the newest member of the Ryanverse, and hopes to bring something new to the character.

"I can't be Alec Baldwin," he told Empire. "I can't be Harrison Ford. I can only really do my own thing and stay true to the pillars of



Chris Pine stars as Jack Ryan in Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit. CONTRIBUTED

this character."

Baldwin originated Ryan on screen in the 1990 high-tech thriller The Hunt for Red October.

The movie could have been the beginning of a James Bond-esque franchise for Baldwin, but he left the series after just one outing despite the film being one of the top grossing movies of the year. In a Huffington

Post blog he says he was pushed aside for another actor "with much greater strength at the box office."

Baldwin doesn't name names, but Harrison Ford soon signed on, playing Ryan in Patriot Games and Clear and Present Danger.

Author Clancy, who passed away in 2013, was not a fan of the Ford years. He thought the two movies

dumbed down his original stories and thought Ford was too old to play the role. "Giving your book to Hollywood is like turning your daughter over to a pimp," he said.

Next up was Ben Affleck, who took over in the 2002 prequel The Sum of All Fears.

"The day I received the offer to play Jack Ryan,"

said Affleck, "I was filming a Pearl Harbor scene with Alec Baldwin. He was very sweet and said I should do it."

The part's originator has become the go-to guy with actors who sign up to play Ryan. When he was offered the part, Pine was shooting Guardians of the Galaxy with Baldwin. "He urged me to hold onto it," said Pine, "and to attack it."



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# Big Bad Wolves has quite the bite

**Bloody great.** Violent Israeli thriller adored by Quentin Tarantino is a cinematic heavy hitter

CHRIS  
ALEXANDER  
scene@metronews.ca

Though we haven't the foggiest how many new movies Quentin Tarantino actually watched last year, the maverick director's assessment of Israeli filmmakers Aharon Keshales and Navot Papushado's shattering revenge thriller *Big Bad Wolves* as "the best film of the year" is hyperbole worth considering. It's really that good.

"We met him in Busan film festival," Keshales told Metro of the event surrounding the screening QT saw.

"Mr. Tarantino came to see the film and at the end, during the Q and A, he raised his hand and said all the beautiful things he said about *Big Bad Wolves*. He also talked to

Navot after the screening and gave us some advice. He did an amazing thing for our film and we feel blessed to have our idol endorsing our film."

Tarantino's thumbs up may have put *Big Bad Wolves* on the pop culture radar, but its power to shock and provoke is distinctly the work of its creators. Their 2012 sleeper gem *Rabies* turned heads internationally and *Wolves* pushes that picture's blackly comic, ultra-violent ferocity into new, troubling and yet amusing directions.

In it, a rogue policeman and a desperate father kidnap and brutalize the mild-mannered teacher they suspect is behind a spate of child murders. But that's just the meat and potatoes set-up of this masterful, serpentine shocker, one that treads a fine line between satire and outright horror show.

"When dealing with such a delicate subject, you have to trust your intuition and gut feeling," the director says.

"If you feel you're crossing a line then you're crossing a



Lior Ashkenazi and Menashe Noy star in *Big Bad Wolves*, which opens Friday in Toronto CONTRIBUTED

line. If you think you're doing something in a very bad taste then you're doing it. Another

recommendation is to give the script to the more delicate souls in your family, like

my mother. If she can read it to the last page without tossing it away in shock then you

did good. If she laughs, well you just managed to fiendishly manipulate the most tender heart in the world."

Violent, imaginative and super-stylish, the critically revered *Big Bad Wolves* has firmly put the duo on the map as forces of dark fiction filmmaking and is paving the way for their next projects including a segment in the upcoming ABC's *Of Death 2* as well as a surreal, typically violent, atypically Israeli, spaghetti western, currently in pre-production.

"Never in our wildest dreams have we thought we'd get such a strong international response (from our work)," says Keshales.

"After *Rabies* we decided to make a film that took the revenge theme to the absurd. We have a moral stand in *Big Bad Wolves* but still we didn't how people would react to this new approach and the things we have to say about the 'machos' in our country."

*Big Bad Wolves* opens Friday.

ZAC EFRON MILES TELLER MICHAEL B. JORDAN

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# Prolific Wolf premieres latest cop drama, still finds time to write a book

**Chicago P.D.** Veteran producer shows no signs of slowing down with high hopes for newest shows

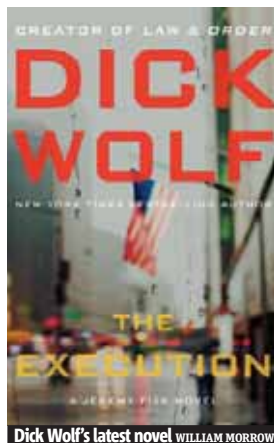
Hours before last week's premiere of his new series, *Chicago P.D.*, Dick Wolf acknowledged he was nervous. Actually, "terrified" was the word he used.

This from a TV impresario whose credits include the hydra-headed *Law & Order* franchise and whose shows have been a prime-time mainstay every season for a quarter-century.

The morning after it premiered, Wolf would learn that a solid 8.6 million viewers had tuned in.

Airing Wednesdays on Global at 10 p.m. ET/PT, the show is centred around the Chicago Police Department's scrappy Intelligence Unit; the series pits Detective Sgt. Hank Voight and his team against the worst killers, drug traffickers and mobsters the Windy City can deliver.

A righteous cop who plays dirty when he needs to, Voight is in good hands with series star Jason Beghe in a portrayal that began on last season's *Chicago Fire*, an action drama about big-city firefighters, which is midway through its second robust season. (*Chicago Fire* airs Tues-



Dick Wolf's latest novel WILLIAM MORROW

days on Global at 10 p.m. ET/PT.)

At 67, Wolf is a veteran producer whose resumé reaches back to *Miami Vice* in the mid-1980s, and who, through much of the past two decades, kept the lights on at NBC when it had little else anybody would watch.

His métier is the full-scale broadcast network drama spanning a season of two dozen self-contained episodes, and with it he prospers, even now in an era when edgy cable fare in serialized gulps of a dozen or fewer hours commands much of TV's buzz and critical acclaim.

Wolf drew an analogy between the indie-film model of these cable-TV series as compared with broadcast networks' mainstream-movie paradigm in describing *Chicago P.D.* as



Jason Beghe as Detective Sgt. Hank Voight, left, and Sophia Bush as Erin Lindsay in a scene from *Chicago P.D.*

MATT DINERSTEIN/NBC/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"a big, old-time television top-drawer series production."

Last week Wolf was also marking the publication of his latest novel.

The *Execution* brings back New York City Detective Jeremy Fisk, whom Wolf introduced in his first novel, *The Intercept*. Now Fisk's Joint Terrorism Task Force is back on high alert as an elusive assassin heads to Manhattan for United Nations Week.

"There are stories that are just too big for a series episode or even an arc," said Wolf when asked what prompted his literary ventures.

But how did Wolf, with his TV empire to tend, find time to be an author?

"I've got small kids," he replied with a laugh before sharing iPhone photos of his 6-year-old daughter and 3-year-old son. "I have a very pleasant

existence in Montecito (Calif.). I'm on a school schedule now, home in the morning 90 per cent of the time. So writing became a routine."

What he called "my quiet hope" is that these thrillers and their hero might inspire an annual Jeremy Fisk miniseries.

But weekly, scripted drama remains Wolf's true forte. He considers himself a businessman generating inventory with

## Quoted



**"Is it retro? Not to me. I just think it's a really good cop show."**

**Dick Wolf, TV Producer**

On *Chicago P.D.*'s two dozen self-contained episodes on broadcast television

a lucrative afterlife as cable repeats.

"The stakes are so huge for the next decade!" he said, picturing the same happy prospect for his *Chicago* shows.

Meanwhile, he's thinking internationally. He produces a *Law & Order* edition for the United Kingdom, *Law & Order: Criminal Intent* in France and Russian versions of *CI* and *SVU*, among other global iterations.

"I'd really like that to happen with (*Chicago*) *Fire* and *P.D.*," he said. "Every big city on the planet has a police department and a fire department. How about *Paris Fire*?"

And all the better if, back home, this domestic duo spawns a third *Chicago* series. How about *Chicago Justice*?

"From your lips to Mr. Nielsen's ears," Wolf replied. "But there's no possibility of that happening unless *P.D.* succeeds. So believe me when I say that our entire focus is getting this one to work." **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

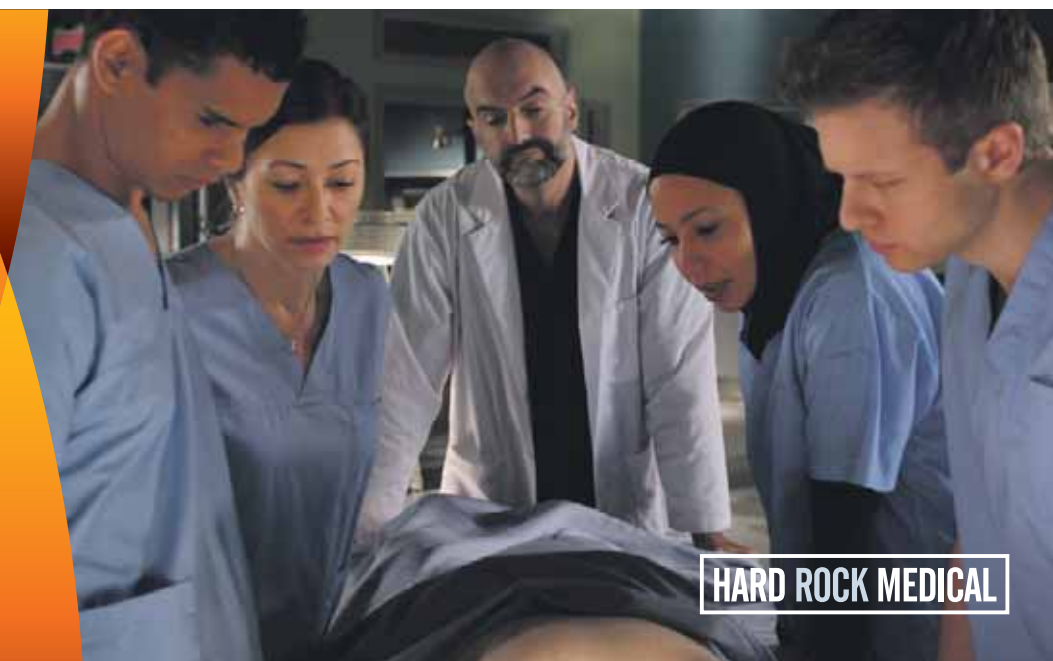
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**HARD ROCK MEDICAL**



# Stewart 'terrified' to begin work on new film Equals

## Fearing the future.

Actress says she can't believe she agreed to work on Drake Doremus' ambitious sci-fi drama

Kristen Stewart has signed on to play the lead in Like Crazy director Drake Doremus' futuristic love story Equals, and it's making her a nervous wreck.

"I can't believe I agreed to do it," said the Twilight actress about her upcoming role in the sci-fi drama, which also stars Nicholas Hoult of the upcoming X-Men: Days of Future Past.

Stewart describes Equals as a slightly updated version of the 1956 film 1984, based on George Orwell's classic novel about rebellion in a repressed futuristic society. Equals begins filming later this year.

"I'm terrified of it," said the 23-year-old actress in a recent interview. "Though it's a movie with a really basic concept, it's overtly ambitious."

"In Equals, things go wrong because you can't deny the humanity in everyone," said Stewart. "It's the most devastating story."

Adds Doremus of his sixth film: "It's about love in a world where love really doesn't exist anymore."

Written by Nathan Parker (Moon), Equals is the first film



Kristen Stewart, shown in this March 2013 file photo, will co-star with Nicholas Hoult in the futuristic love story Equals.  
JORDAN STRAUSS/INVISION/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Quoted

**"It's a love story of epic, epic, epic proportion. I'm scared."**

Kirsten Stewart  
On playing the lead in Equals

Doremus will direct that he didn't write himself.

"I trust Drake's process and

I know we will do something really natural and real," said Stewart. "But I told Drake, 'Don't expect that I am going to be able to do this. It's too hard.' But he wouldn't take 'no' for an answer. I've given directors disclaimers before, but never this much."

Jennifer Lawrence, who appeared in 2011's Like Crazy, was one of the first actresses to read Parker's script. Though

the story brought her to tears, she couldn't see herself in the role, said Doremus.

"It became evident in my head that Nick and Kristen would have great chemistry," the director said.

This week, the actress heads to the Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah, where she'll star in writer-director Peter Sattler's soldier film Camp X-Ray. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



Seth MacFarlane talks to the Television Critics Association about the new space exploration series Cosmos: A Spacetime Odyssey. **FREDERICK M. BROWN/GETTY IMAGES**

## Science guy? Cosmos series to seek the final frontier thanks to Seth MacFarlane

Seth MacFarlane, creator of Family Guy and voice of Stewie on the animated Fox show, is bringing his love of space exploration to television.

He's the executive producer of Cosmos: A Spacetime Odyssey, a 13-part series that will debut March 9 on Fox. It will also air on the National Geographic Channel.

Best known for his profane animated series and Oscar-hosting duties last year, MacFarlane's head has been

in the stars since he first saw Carl Sagan's original Cosmos: A Personal Voyage as a youngster.

MacFarlane suggested to Cosmos host Neil deGrasse Tyson that the show should be pitched to Fox to garner a broader audience.

"I was pleasantly greeted with enthusiasm, and I didn't have to stop doing Stewie or anything," MacFarlane told the Television Critics Association on Monday.

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

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THE OTHER  
SIDE



# Can American Idol stop the ratings slide?

**A fresh start.** Show aims to bring back viewers with JLo, Harry Connick Jr. and changes to the talent search

Keith Urban was wrapping up a recent interview about American Idol when Harry

Connick Jr. breezed into a backstage room, ready for his turn. "He talks and talks and talks," Connick said, gleefully needing his fellow Idol judge. "Get out."

Urban replied in kind, telling Connick he'd answered a reporter's questions for him: "I said it would make for a better interview."

The musicians' good-na-

tured digs suggest a fresh start for American Idol after a sour season in which the bickering between judges Mariah Carey and Nicki Minaj, with Urban stuck in the middle, was anything but entertaining.

Urban, newcomer Connick and Jennifer Lopez, who's returning after a season's absence, have the task of helping the singing contest find its

footing and stopping a ratings slide in its 13th season.

They have help from two new executive producers, replacements for the longtime team that guided American Idol through an unprecedented nine-year streak as TV's No. 1 program to the loss of that crown in 2013.

Besides the show's own missteps, other talent shows

— including NBC's hit *The Voice* and Fox's own *The X Factor* — have grabbed audience attention.

But the show's ability to rebound shouldn't be underestimated, say producers Per Blankens, who produced the successful *Swedish Idol*, and Trish Kinane.

American Idol is "still the best format in the world. ... Our job is to go back to basics," Blankens said. That includes "a panel that's good, and like what they're doing, and could consider eating lunch together, because it all starts there."

The judges say they not only enjoy each other's company but also agree their role on the show is secondary.

"The focus should be in the front," Urban said, referring to the young singers he was assessing during a taping last month for the elimination stage known as Hollywood Week.

At a news conference Monday, the country star expanded on the panel's shared view of what is owed the contestants.

"It's a really daunting thing," Urban said. "You know, they've got no microphone, no audience, no band, no music, nothing, and they stand in front of us and sing. And all three of us have so much respect for that."

The judges also need to be educators, Connick said.

"This is my whole mantra for the show: If there's anything I can communicate, passion and education aren't exclusive. People say, 'I just want to play what I feel.' I play what I feel. But the definition of passion to me is learning everything about your craft,"

## Vanishing audience

# 13.2M

The show, which hit a peak of 30.3 million viewers in the 2005-06 season, last year dropped sharply to less than half that, 13.2 million, according to Nielsen company figures.

the jazz musician and singer said.

With what Kinane called solid "chemistry" in place for the panel, she and Blankens turned their attention to the production itself. The talent search was expanded to include outreach to people unable to get to big-city auditions, and an element called the "chamber" was added.

It involves a private room — save for a camera — in which contestants have a chance to ready themselves for their initial meeting with the judges, whether through rehearsal, prayer or just a grooming check, Kinane said.

Based on viewer comments, Idol has compressed the rounds between Hollywood Week and the start of the live telecasts into what's been tagged "rush week." Randy Jackson, stepping from judge into the role of mentor, will hold workshops to help contestants deal with vocal and other challenges.

The songs available for the contest, which have included a notable share of golden oldies, will have more current tunes that the young contestants — and presumably young viewers — can relate to, Blankens said.

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Judges Keith Urban and Jennifer Lopez speak to the Television Critics Association this week in Pasadena, Calif. RICHARD SHOTWELL/INVISION/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



# METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

## The Word



Jennifer Lawrence

## Director deems Lawrence a 'slave' to the silver screen

David O. Russell is not one to mince words. And now the director might cause some trouble with his recent comparison of the Hunger Games franchise to, um, slavery — but at least he's aware of it. "Talk about 12 years of slavery, that's what the franchise is. And I'm going to get in so much trouble for saying that," Russell tells the New York Daily News, after he suggested that the franchise's producers should go a little easier on star Jennifer Lawrence, who just won a Golden Globe for his film *American Hustle*.

"I personally think they should give her a bit of breathing room over there because they're printing money. But she's a very alive person."

## Stork will bring a boy for Wilde and Sudeikis

It's going to be a boy for Olivia Wilde and Jason Sudeikis, the mother-to-be confirmed to *People* magazine after her Golden Globes appearance. "He was kicking the whole time, going, 'Where are we?'" she said after divulging that her due date is May 4. She's also taking criticisms of the sequined emerald-green gown she wore to the awards show. "I just heard someone say I looked like a giant, walking pickle," she posted to Twitter the day after the Golden Globes. "As a pickle enthusiast, I thank you."

## Investigation underway after Kimye chiropractor confrontation

MELINDA TAUB  
Metro World News

The Beverly Hills Police Department has some questions for Kanye West.

The rapper allegedly walked into a chiropractor's office on Monday and punched a young man who had been haranguing him and his fiancée, Kim Kardashian, with a torrent of racial slurs. Police have confirmed they are conducting an investigation into the incident.

"On Monday, January 13th at approximately 12:15 PM, the Beverly Hills Police Department responded to the 8800 block of Wilshire Blvd.

regarding a Misdemeanor Battery that just occurred at the location. The named suspect was identified as Kanye West by the victim and several witnesses," the Beverly Hills Police said in a statement. "Mr. West had left the location prior to Officers' arrival. As of this writing, BHPD Detectives are conducting a follow-up investigation. No further information at this time."

Apparently, the young man tried to help Kardashian into the medical building in Beverly Hills and started shouting slurs including the n-word at the paparazzi.

When Kardashian asked him not to use the term, he allegedly cursed her off as well, repeating the slur.

After Kim called Kanye for help, the young man cursed him out too.

Of course I would never condone violence, but I find myself very much with Team Kimye on this one.

## Police scramble to crack case of egg-regious vandalism

Detectives searched Justin Bieber's home looking for surveillance footage that might serve as evidence the pop star was involved in an egg-tossing vandalism case that caused thousands of dollars in damage to a neighbour's home, an official said Tuesday.

Roughly a dozen investigators searched Bieber's home and arrested one member of the singer's entourage on suspicion of cocaine possession, Lt. David Thompson said.



Justin Bieber ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

### Home is where the havoc is

- Justin Bieber lives in a gated community in Calabasas, a celebrity enclave about 30 miles northwest of downtown Los Angeles. Four helicopters hovered over the neighbourhood hours after the warrant was served.
- In October, prosecutors declined to charge Bieber after a neighbour complained he drove recklessly through the area.

The man was later identified as Lil Za, a rapper whose real name is Xavier Smith. Jail records show Smith, 20, was being held in lieu of \$20,000 US bail. Thompson said the cocaine linked to Smith was in plain sight when detectives searched Bieber's house.

Bieber, 19, was at the home and co-operated with authorities but was not interviewed by detectives. Thompson said he expected the singer to speak with detectives when his attorney could be present.

"He has not been arrested, nor has he been exonerated," Thompson said of Bieber. Thompson declined to

describe what evidence detectives took from Bieber's home, but said the emphasis wasn't on what was in the pop star's refrigerator. He said the house Bieber allegedly egged had custom wood and other expensive features and that several thousands of dollars in damage occurred. Thompson added that a judge authorized the search warrant.

"I get that the eggs don't seem that significant, but it does rise to the level of a felony," Thompson said. "There is a victim in this case who has extensive damage done to their home. And that's a serious incident." **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



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Casa de Campo's Teeth of the Dog course was designed by Pete Dye, who is renowned for his radical designs. COURTESY CASA DE CAMPO

# Bikinis, beaches and birdies

**Casa de Campo.**  
Dominican Republic  
resort boasts best golf  
course in the Caribbean



**BRIAN  
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In golf, as in fashion, it's impossible to overestimate the marketing clout of a bikini-clad supermodel.

Already a favourite among the game's cognoscenti, Casa de Campo instantly became a must-play destination for red-blooded golfers everywhere when the posh Dominican Republic resort provided the

tropical backdrop for Elle Macpherson and other beauties in the 1987 Sports Illustrated swimsuit issue.

"Sports Illustrated was the breakthrough we'd been waiting for," says Montreal-born Gilles Gagnon, Casa de Campo's director of golf since 1980. "It showcased a unique course and an exotic Caribbean setting that golfers wanted to tick off their bucket list along with St. Andrews and Pebble Beach."

Today, Casa de Campo ranks among the world's elite resorts, attracting, among others, billionaires, former U.S. presidents and movie stars who come to golf, play polo, skeet shoot, frolic in the surf and otherwise enjoy a sprawling 7,000-acre retreat so big and ripe with possibilities that hotel guests are given golf carts to get

around the grounds.

But even more than Sports Illustrated, Casa de Campo's success has rested from its opening in 1971 on the brilliance of Teeth of the Dog, the marquee attraction of the property's three Pete Dye-designed courses. Dye, now 88, is renowned for his often radical designs at TPC Sawgrass and other celebrated courses. He was hired by then owners Gulf + Western to literally chisel a course from the oceanfront site's razor-sharp coral rock, called "dientes del perro" (teeth of the dog in Spanish) by his frustrated Dominican crew.

Planted sprig by sprig using machete-sharpened sticks, Dye's generous fairways wind through now mature stands of coconut palms, gumbo-limbo trees and bougainvillea. The

real fun begins closer to the greens, where sand and water and severe drop-offs demand surgically precise approach shots. Most unforgettable of all are the seven oceanside holes, including the eponymous 16th, a long and treacherous par three set in a rock cove roughly shaped like a dog's snapping jaws.

A hands-on perfectionist, Dye, who used to own a home on the property, has spent half a lifetime tweaking and even massively reworking Teeth of the Dog and the resort's two other courses.

Reopened in early 2012 after a major reconstruction, The Links is a 6,900-yard inland layout played around man-made lakes and through tall roughs of bahia and guinea grass. And, perched on windswept bluffs

## For the non-golfers

- **Resort amenities.** The hotel recently completed a \$40 million refurbishment and guests can enjoy the pool, spa and private villas.
- **Polo anyone?** There are weekly polo matches as well as skeet and trap shooting at the 300-station shooting centre.

overlooking the Chavon River, Dye Fore, a rolling and starkly bare behemoth that launched to rave reviews in 2003, has been expanded from 18 to 27 holes. Dye Fore's new nine, Lakes, snakes dramatically around 25 acres of ponds.

## Contest

### Become a pro connoisseur for the summer

Do you have what it takes to be a professional connoisseur? Then Tourism Tobago is looking for you to be their Island Connoisseur.

One winner will spend July and August on the island, sharing their experiences over social media. Oh yeah — there's a \$30,000

salary for the two-month gig, too.

So who's the ideal connoisseur? An outgoing personality helps. So does being a social media whiz. You must also love learning about new cultures. To enter the contest, submit your short bio and 30-second video to 60daysinparadise.com.

A panel of travel industry experts will pick the top 10 applicants and then Canadians will vote to decide who will become the Island Connoisseur.

**METRO**



Wanna spend your summer here? FLICKR: ABEEER



# Survive those winter airport blues

Over the last month, we've seen thousands of frustrated travellers delayed or stranded in airports across the country. With weeks of winter weather still ahead of us, here's a quick course in Winter Travel 101.



**ON THE MOVE**  
Loren Christie  
life@metronews.ca

## Flight cancelled?

If your flight is cancelled, you will be automatically re-accommodated on the next available flight. How soon depends on the frequency of service to your destination. The challenge during peak travel periods is that flights are often full. It could take days. If you initially have trouble re-booking your cancelled flight, it is worth checking back frequently as larger airlines like Air Canada may try to add more flights when extra crew and capacity become available. If your flight is cancelled, you are entitled to a refund for the unused portion of your ticket.



## Flight delayed?

In the case of weather-related delays, there are no set rules that airlines in Canada have to follow. Each airline does, however, spell out its passengers' rights in its condition of carriage, a lengthy document that outlines exactly what compensation you can expect from your air carrier in case things go wrong. WestJet will provide you, depending on the length of the delay, with meal and taxi vouchers as well as an overnight stay in a hotel if you are not in your home city. The compensation varies from airline to airline.

## It's all in the plan

Book the first flight out in the morning to ensure you are aren't waiting for your aircraft to arrive. Avoid layovers, and if you're heading south and need to make a connection, skip cities like Chicago and Boston and transfer through Miami and Houston, which are less affected by winter storms. If you can, only bring a carry on as it saves time on both ends. Consider buying interruption insurance, which will cover a portion of your unexpected expenses even if the causes are weather-related.



## Control your destiny

Check the status of your flight before leaving for the airport, even if the sky is blue. Bad weather in another city can have a domino effect. Bring along phone numbers for the airline and your travel agent in case you need them. If there are big storms and cancellations, the sooner you can get re-booked the better. Don't rely on one person at the airline to help — think outside the box. If you're scheduled to fly from Fort Lauderdale, maybe you can get on a flight out of Miami. Don't forget to look into rental cars, buses or trains in extreme situations.



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# Building a winter wonderland

**Ice castles.** How a man turned creating ice towers for his kids into tourist attractions

Farming is tough during a New Hampshire winter — unless you're growing icicles.

At the base of Loon Mountain in Lincoln, an ice castle not unlike the frosty palace in the Disney movie *Frozen* is rising from the ground, one icicle at a time. It's one of three ice castles being built by the same company — the others are in Breckenridge, Colo., and Midway, Utah — this winter.

Brent Christensen, who now lives in Hawaii, started his Ice Castles company a few years ago after spending several winters building elaborate slides and ice towers for his kids in his backyard in Utah. He initially sprayed water onto wooden frames, only to be left with a tangled mess of splintered wood in spring. The next year, he experimented with blocks of ice, building a small igloo



About 8,000 people have visited the New Hampshire castle since it opened on Dec. 27. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

to which he added chunks of snow and ice.

"During that process, I almost accidentally started thinking about icicles," he said. "At first it was just for cosmetics. I thought, 'This will look really cool.' And then, with time, I stumbled on the idea of crisscrossing the icicles, and that's when I found ... you can actually grow them in certain ways."

Eventually, he approached ski areas about building larger structures that could serve as temporary art installations and tourist attractions, and the idea took off. It costs tens of thousands of dollars to build the castles, the largest of which spans about an acre, and visitors pay \$8 to \$10 US to walk through them. About 8,000 people have visited the New Hampshire castle since it opened Dec. 27.

The castles will continue growing during the season, until they melt in March. Walls that stand eight to 20 feet could reach 40 to 60 feet in the next month or so, and icicles placed along the tops of walls will become ceilings. But it takes a lot of work, said Cory Livingood, foreman of the New Hampshire castle's crew.

The process starts in the fall, with the installation of

## Quoted

**"We're technically farmers. We grow icicles, we handpick them, harvest them, take them out and hand place them around sprinklers."**

Cory Livingood, foreman of the New Hampshire castle's crew

elaborate sprinkler systems. When the weather turns cold, water is sprayed onto metal racks to produce thousands of icicles that are harvested and stuck to the ground around sprinkler heads. The icicles are then drenched in water and, depending on the temperature and wind, grow in various shapes and formations.

"We're technically farmers," Livingood said. "We grow icicles, we handpick them, harvest them, take them out and hand place them around sprinklers, and then we turn on those sprinklers and they grow more."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Contest

### Become a pro 'connoisseur'

Do you have what it takes to be a professional connoisseur? Then Tourism Tobago is looking for you to be their Island Connoisseur. One winner will spend July and August on the island, sharing their experiences over social media. Oh yeah — there's a \$30,000 salary for the two-month gig, too. So who's the ideal connoisseur? An outgoing personality helps. So does being a social media whiz. You must also love learning about new cultures. To enter the contest, submit your short bio and 30-second video to 60daysinparadise.com. METRO



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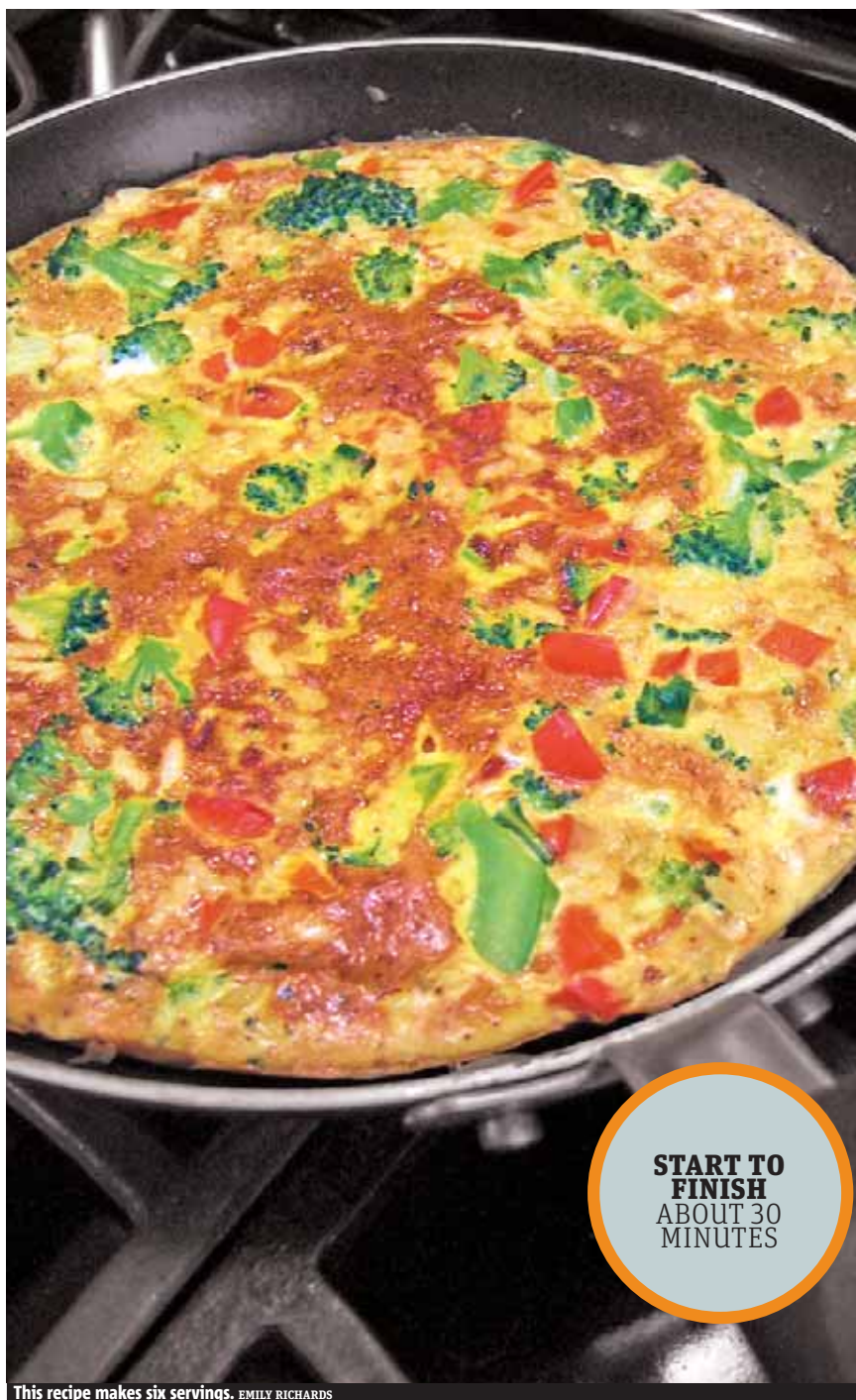
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This recipe makes six servings. EMILY RICHARDS

# A quick dinner that helps to clean out the fridge, too

**Vegetable and Rice Frittata.** This dish is great because of its versatility. Use leftover rice and veggies or add your own flavours



**DINNER EXPRESS**  
Emily Richards  
food@metronews.ca

This vegetarian frittata can be served up with a green salad. Busy night? Start your dinner with a warm bowl of soup and then take a wedge of this with you for a quick meal on the run.

This quick, simple dinner is also a wonderful way to clean out the fridge by using up leftover rice and perhaps even last night's cooked vegetables.

It's just as good the next day, served up for lunch with some pasta sauce.

It's an unforgettable meal that is quick to get on the table and enjoy.

## FLASH FOOD



From your fridge to your table in 30 minutes or less

1. In an 8 inch (20 cm) heat-proof nonstick skillet, heat oil over medium heat. Cook shallot and garlic for 2 minutes or until softened. Stir in broccoli, red pepper and curry powder to coat. Add broth, cover and cook for 5 minutes or until broccoli is tender. Stir in rice to coat well.

2. Meanwhile, in bowl, whisk together eggs, egg whites, salt and ground pepper. Pour over vegetable mixture, lifting and stirring eggs into the mixture with a spatula. Cover and cook for about 8 minutes or until edges are set and puffed. Broil about 6 inches (15 cm) away from broiler for 2 to 4 minutes or until knife inserted in centre comes out clean and top is golden brown.

## Ingredients

- 2 tsp (10 ml) canola oil
- 1 shallot, finely chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 cups (500 ml) chopped fresh or frozen broccoli
- Half red bell pepper, diced
- 1 tsp (5 ml) curry powder or paste
- 1/2 cup (125 ml) vegetable broth
- 1 cup (250 ml) cooked brown rice
- 4 eggs
- 3 egg whites
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) each salt and fresh ground black pepper

## Cooking tips

- This recipe is a great way to use up leftover rice. Whether it is white or brown or sticky rice, it will work well. No rice? No problem. When shopping, pick up precooked rice that is ready when you are, so there's no need to cook the rice at home and wait an extra 20 minutes to make the frittata.
- If using frozen broccoli, be sure to thaw if before for best results. The extra water will dilute the flavour in the frittata.
- This dish is also great with peas, potatoes, asparagus or zucchini.
- If your heatproof skillet has a plastic or wood handle be sure to wrap it with foil before putting it in the oven to broil. By simply wrapping it up you will have yourself an ovenproof skillet.

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# Don't wage war at the watercooler, solve conflict with care and class

**Ban boardroom brawls.** Fight the urge to approach workplace battles with animosity and aggression

SHAHEERAH KAYANI  
TalentEgg.ca

Have you ever gotten in a conflict at school with one of your project team members — or with a colleague at work?

Perhaps someone isn't showing up to meetings or contributing to a group task. Perhaps a personal issue has arisen with one of your coworkers.

These conflicts can leave you agitated and frustrated, whether they are personal, school-related or work-related.

Here are six handy conflict resolution tips that you may find useful in helping you to work through and settle these conflicts.

## Talk directly

Rather than complaining



Don't just talk, be a good listener too. You need to give the other person a chance to tell their side of the story. ISTOCK

to others and spreading rumours, it is best to talk directly with the person or persons involved in the issue. Taking a direct approach is definitely a lot more useful and will be faster than if

you try to get someone else to do the talking for you.

If you aren't sure about this approach, speaking to a superior or instructor is a great idea — they may have insight or advice.

## Choose a good time and place

Make sure to consider the setting of any discussion or attempt to resolve con-

flict. You don't want to be discussing your personal issues in front of everyone else, or somewhere where you are likely to be interrupted or distracted. Try to find a place where you can focus on the issue at hand. Choosing a good time will allow you to engage in a thorough dialogue to resolve the issue.

## Choose your words carefully

This one is pretty self-explanatory. When tensions are high, the wrong choice of words can turn a productive discussion into a new stage of the problem. If you're bringing negative energy to the discussion, the other person will feel antagonized and will likely get defensive.

## Plan ahead

Identifying the issue at hand and the necessary areas of discussion will make your resolution efforts more effective.

Try and get a clear

## Follow up on the solution

- When you have figured out a mutually agreeable solution, make sure to periodically check in with each person to ensure the solution is still working well for both of you.
- Of course, not all conflicts can be resolved under your own authority, no matter how hard you try. Be ready to resort to taking the issue to an instructor or supervisor to ensure that a proper process is followed.

understanding of the issue at hand, who the involved parties are and what a solution that meets the needs of every party will look like. Concentrate on addressing the issue at hand and focus on your own behaviour and areas of responsibility.

## Give information

This is arguably the most important step. Try not to make assumptions. Making a statement like: "You are doing this to make my job harder!" won't get you anywhere. Instead, try offering information: "When you do this, it affects me because...."

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#### NFL concussions

### Judge fears \$765M settlement too little

A U.S. federal judge is slowing down the proposed \$765-million US settlement of NFL concussion claims, questioning if there's enough money to cover 20,000 retired players.

U.S. District Judge Anita B. Brody denied preliminary approval of the plan Tuesday because she's worried the money could run out sooner than expected.

"I am primarily concerned that not all retired NFL football players who ultimately receive a qualifying diagnosis or their (families) ... will be paid," the judge wrote.

The proposed settlement, negotiated over several months, is designed to last at least 65 years.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

#### Tennis

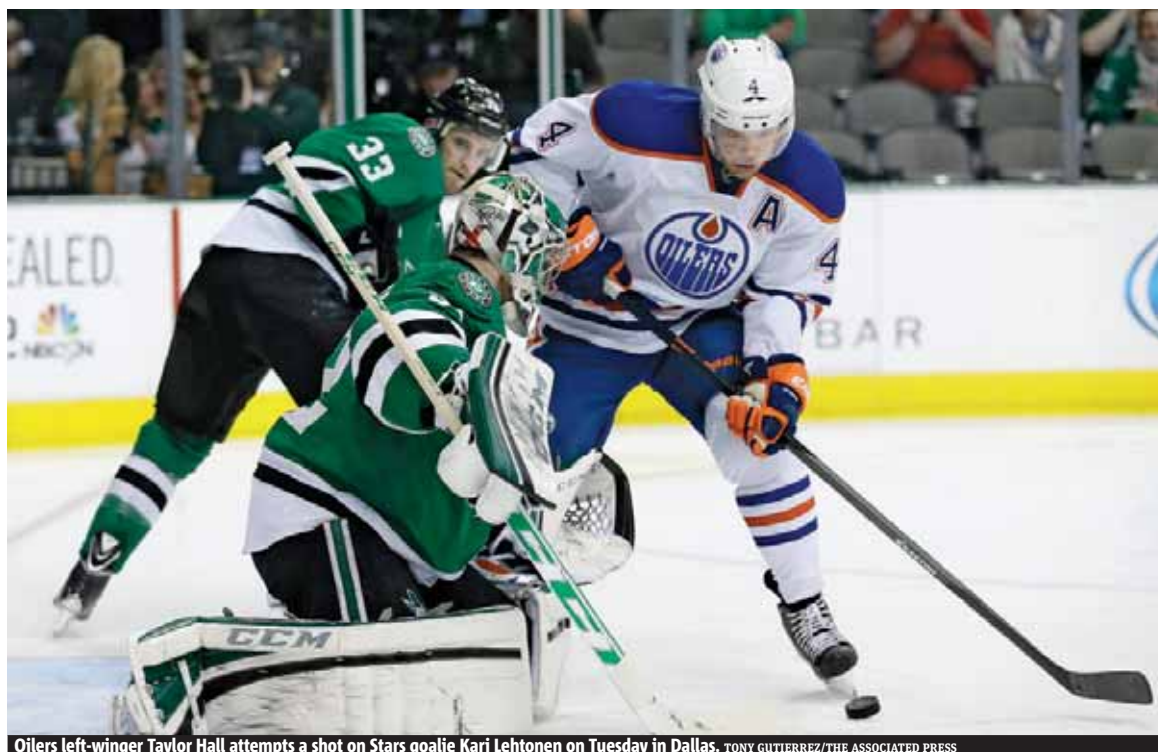
### Serena Williams matches Aussie Open record

Serena Williams matched one of Margaret Court's records at the Australian Open on Wednesday as she advanced to the third round with a 6-1, 6-2 win over Vesna Dolonc.

Williams improved her record to 60-8 at Melbourne Park, equalling Court's 60 match wins in the Open era at the Australian championship.

Court, who won seven of her 11 Australian titles before the Open era began in 1968, has a show court named in her honour adjacent to Rod Laver Arena.

Two fans held up a sign on Wednesday saying centre court was "Serena's Arena." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Oilers left-winger Taylor Hall attempts a shot on Stars goalie Kari Lehtonen on Tuesday in Dallas. TONY GUTIERREZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Stars scorch Oilers to stop 6-game slide

**NHL.** Edmonton spots Dallas three 1st-period goals and can't recover

Ryan Garbutt had a goal and two assists, and the Dallas Stars snapped a six-game losing streak with a 5-2 victory over the Edmonton Oilers on Tuesday night.

Jamie Benn scored a rare power-play goal for the Stars, who had not won since New

On Tuesday

5

Stars

2

Oilers

Year's Eve. They entered 29th in the NHL with the man advantage.

Benn also assisted on the first goal of the game by Erik

Cole, just 14 seconds in. Cody Eakin and Trevor Daley each had a goal and an assist for Dallas, which built a 4-1 lead 1:10 into the second period.

The final Stars goal came on Daley's shot into an empty net in the last minute.

Justin Schultz and Sam Gagner scored for Edmonton, with Taylor Hall assisting on both goals.

After the opening faceoff, Daley skated in from the left side, drawing goalie Ilya Bryzgalov's attention. Daley then

passed across to Cole, who swept the puck into the open right side.

Benn's power-play goal made it 3-1 later in the opening period. Tyler Seguin passed from the top of the right circle to Benn on the left. His drive beat Bryzgalov.

It was only the seventh goal at home with a man advantage in 81 opportunities for Dallas this season. Overall, the Stars entered with a 12.4 per cent success rate (20 for 161). THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Cross-country ski team expects banner Olympics



Emily Nishikawa, from left, Graeme Killick, Lenny Valjas, Jesse Cockney and Heidi Widmer were among those announced as members of the Canadian Olympic cross-country ski team in Calgary Tuesday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada's cross-country ski team is poised to make Olympic history next month.

While Canadian women have stood on the Olympic podium in the sport, a Canadian man never has.

Led by Alex Harvey of St-Ferreal-les-Neiges, Que., and Devon Kershaw of Sudbury, Ont., that drought could end on the Psekhako Ridge in Sochi, Russia.

The hard goal of Canada's cross-country team is to claim at least two medals in Sochi. It's the men who have the best chance at winning them

this time.

"I really feel if this team doesn't get two medals I'll feel a bit of disappointment or maybe we did something wrong," Canadian head coach Justin Wadsworth said. "That doesn't mean we're incapable of four or five medals."

"This is an amazing team. We could do better than two medals. We could blow other teams out of the water if everything comes together."

The 11 skiers who will represent Canada in Sochi were introduced Tuesday at an elementary school, with six be-

ing present for the announcement. Harvey, Kershaw, Ivan Babikov of Canmore, Daria Gaiazova of Banff and Perianne Jones of Almonte, Ont., were in Europe and en route to a World Cup event in Poland.

Chandra Crawford and Jesse Cockney of Canmore, Toronto's Lenny Valjas, Graeme Killick of Fort McMurray, Heidi Widmer of Banff and Emily Nishikawa of Whitehorse will join their teammates in Italy next week for pre-Games training.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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hwy / city 100km<sup>^</sup>  
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# Canada's very own Micra

**Review.** It's been 21 years since it was last sold here but now Nissan has decided to bring it back and 'Canadianize' it

MIKE GOETZ  
drive@metronews.ca

Currently sold in 160 countries, the Nissan Micra subcompact hatchback is a very successful global car.

But it's always been a no-show in the U.S., and it's been 21 years since it was last sold in Canada for an unremarkable seven-year run.

Nissan Canada just announced it will try the Micra experiment again, this time with feeling, and with a very "Canadianized" version, which will be exclusive to Canada. Nissan's U.S. arm is still not Micra motivated, and won't be selling any Micra versions any time soon.

Historically, the Canadian marketplace has always been populated with Canada-only models not sold in the U.S., but they're getting scarcer on the ground, and with what Nissan Canada had to go through, to make this new Micra happen, you can see why...

"It was in development for three years solid," says Andrew Wilton, Nissan Canada's chief marketing manager, and one of the Nissan execs on hand for the model's first unveiling, at a special event in Montreal last week. "You wouldn't believe the amount of engineering that went into it."

The Canadian 2015 Micra will be built at Nissan's Mexican plant, which has been building Mexican-market



PHOTOS: NISSAN



Nissan Micra's re-introduction to Canada reflects this country's love of small hatchbacks.

Micras for years, but Wilton said the Canadian version is closer to the European version. "We looked at the Mexican car, but it just wasn't right for us. We wanted more of the European touches."

In fact, the launch of the Canadian car was timed to

coincide with the European model's mid-cycle revision, just completed in 2013.

Some of the "Canada-only" items on this Micra include ducts for rear-seat heating, 60/40 split folding rear seat, heated side mirrors, and front and rear

suspension. Wilton and Nissan Canada are really proud of that suspension.

They took the best Micra suspension component set up they could find globally, in that European market Micra, and made it even better, by adding those sway bars: "No other market has a front or rear sway bar," boasted Wilton.

The car also gets the European 15 and 16 inch wheels, because Nissan Canada liked the looks of them, and Canadians use winter tires, and those are harder to come by on the smaller 13 and 14 inch wheels featured on the Micra models in other markets.

"That's the beauty of a global car. You can pick and choose from every single market. We selfishly like to think we did a really good job at the picking and choosing," added Wilton.

The Micra is smaller than the Nissan Versa Note, but shares the same V-platform, which underpins a lot of

## 2015 Nissan Micra

- **Type.** Subcompact four-door hatchback
- **Engine.** 1.6-litre four-cylinder engine
- **Transmissions.** 4-speed automatic or 5-speed manual
- **Base price (incl. destination).** Nissan said it will be lower than their \$13.3K Versa Note

## Exclusive Canadian club

The Canadian marketplace has always featured vehicles not sold in the U.S., but we're seeing less and less of them. Here are a few past and Canadian-market models that were, or are, persona non grata in the U.S., 1959 Dodge Viscount; 2000 Toyota Echo Hatchback; 2005 Acura EL 1.7; 2009 Mercedes-Benz B-Class.

small Nissans (V stands for versatile). Micra's engine will also be the same 1.6-litre "four" toiling away in Versa Note, but Micra will go with a five-speed manual or conventional four-speed automatic; Versa's automatic is a CVT.

Keeping the "higher-technology" pieces on the Versa Note is Nissan's strategy to give the two small hatchbacks some separation on the sales floor and on the price ladder. So don't expect stuff up-market options like heated seats, navigation, and 360-degree monitor on the Micra.

Versa Note's base price is \$13,348. Micra's will be lower than that, but Nissan is not saying by how much exactly, at least not yet.

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# Sporadic power delivery an issue with the Fit

## Second gear.

2007-2013  
Honda Fit

JUSTIN  
PRITCHARD  
drive@metronews.ca

Honda's Fit launched in Canada for 2007 with a cleverly designed body and cabin that generated a whole whack of space inside of a small package. Big on flexibility, efficiency and reliability, Fit found homes in the driveways of thousands of active Canadians, students, busy couples, pet lovers and outdoors buffs alike. Crammed with 2,572 liters of interior volume and 1,622 liters of cargo space, Fit owners benefit from rear seats that flip up or down to accommodate a variety of items.

### Common issues

Inspect your potential used Fit candidate for signs of damaged or peeling paint, which may be more prevalent on the bumpers. Many owners say they wish for a more durable finish from their Fit. Further, check for signs of rust, or repaired rust, around the rear wheelwells where the steel body panel meets the bumper—especially in first generation models. Be sure the tailgate stays open on its own, confirming the struts that lift and support the tailgate aren't worn out. Be sure the first-generation Fit has a properly-functioning external tailgate release latch, too. If it sticks or fails to open the



PHOTO: PROVIDED

hatch, an occasional blast of WD-40 can help until you wind up replacing the assembly. Lumpy, lazy or sporadic power delivery at moderate or full throttle may be the result of failure of one of the four coil packs, which fire the spark plugs. The Fit should steer easily and smoothly at any speed. If it doesn't, a fussy Electronic Power Steering (EPS) component could be to blame. Many owners simply restart the engine to bring the system back online if it cuts out—which will illuminate a warning light and drastically increase steering effort.

### What owners like



Fit owners rave about mileage, versatility, handling, braking, maneuverability, visibility, ergonomics, and a surprising level of on-board roominess, despite the machine's compact size.

### What owners dislike



Fit owners typically complain about a noisy engine and ride, abrupt ride characteristics in some situations, and diminished performance when the vehicle is loaded up.

### Engine



All models were motivated by a 1.5-litre i-VTEC 4-cylinder engine, offering up to 117 horsepower. Fit drives the front wheels through either a 5-speed manual transmission or a 5-speed automatic with available paddle-shift.

### The verdict

Used car shoppers can expect the Fit to command a premium in the used market, in exchange for above-average reliability, versatility and driving pleasure. Seek a mechanical thumbs-up from a Honda mechanic ahead of your purchase, and then buy confidently.

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# Toyota's FT-1 concept has universal appeal

**2014 Detroit Auto Show.** Japanese automaker decided to indulge itself and show a stunning vision of where the company is headed for the future



**AUTO PILOT**  
Mike Goetz  
drive@metronews.ca

The Toyota FT-1 concept debuting in Detroit this week portends what a front-engine, rear-drive Toyota flagship sports car might look like, if Toyota was so inclined to build one.

It was totally designed at Toyota's Caltex design studio in California, and the chief designer there, Alex Shen, tells us that the main design theme was to leverage and celebrate the "functional aspects of a sports car."

"If you look at the surfacing and construction, you can see everything is based on down-force and cooling needs," says



I think Toyota have succeeded in making a car that everyone likes in FT-1 BOTH PROVIDED

Shen. As such, the air intakes and outtakes are where a lot of the FT-1's visual horsepower is made, with very graceful and dramatic sculpting.

"We didn't just want to make very mechanical holes. The sculpting is actually in the holes, in the negative surfacing."

The other curves and bodywork are also all about doing what they can for engine cooling, aerodynamics, and cleaning up "dirty air." When Caltex

talked to Toyota's "race guys" (the department known as TRD), the race guys said dirty air around the wheel arches is a particular problem on the racetrack. The FT-1 has crazy wheel flares and tight body-to-wheel tolerances, but it's not for show — it's all for go.

At higher speeds a retractable rear wing also deploys and tilts forward to improve weight distribution.

Shen said the vehicle is "authentically aerodynamic."

The "just for function" ethos continues to the tiny cabin, which is just big enough to cover the driver and passenger, and the soft seat materials exist only where they meet human body parts.

"Nothing is excessive," says Shen.

I guess I get what he means, but everything works toward an excessively dramatic sports car concept. It's a showstopper for sure, and a bit of a reversal for Toyota, which has



The interior is a good example of the designers' 'just for function' ethos

historically only green-lighted vehicle designs if they satisfied a lot of consensus-based tests, such as consumer and market studies, and internal juries.

"The goal was to produce a vehicle liked by everyone," said Kevin Hunter, who heads up Caltex, and who had the honours of introducing the concept in Detroit. "As a result we took less risk, and tried not to stray too far from designs that had been a success."

Hunter said Toyota is mov-

ing away from such consensus decision processes, so more emotionally engaging products, like the FT-1, can be created: "This is a symbol of Toyota's design future, a spiritual pace car for a changing Toyota."

No production plans or any technical specifications for the FT-1 were revealed, though Shen said many elements of the design should show up on future Toyota products.



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# Automotive eye candy is coming ...

**Autoknow.** In a world that seems incapable of keeping secrets, the Detroit Auto Show still has a surprise or two up its sleeve

TODD D. BURLAGE  
wheelbasemedia.com

The 2014 North American International Auto Show (NAIAS) in Detroit, Mich., won't likely have the punch of the 2013 event.

Why? The Corvette was a huge draw a year ago. And with the international debut of the 2015 Ford Mustang already having taken place in December, this year's NAIAS will launch Jan. 18 to the general public without the draw of a clear headline act.

But what the NAIAS will lack in the revelations of iconic vehicles, it will likely make up for with a wide variety of debuts from many of the premier manufacturers around the world. More than 20 top autobuilders have confirmed vehicle launches during the show, including Acura, Bentley, BMW, Cadillac, Chevrolet, Ford, Honda, Infiniti, Lexus, Mercedes-Benz, Nissan, Porsche, Toyota and Volkswagen.

"The manufacturers continue to show their confidence in the NAIAS, and will once again bring their absolute best to Detroit's world stage," said Bob Shuman, chairman of this year's show. "That means introductions of an expected 50 worldwide concept and production vehicles that will be seen for the very first time right here in Detroit."

Almost 30,000 industry professionals, 5,000 journalists and 750,000 visitors will converge on the Cobo Center in Detroit for the Super Bowl of auto shows that ends Jan. 26. "The manufacturers made it abundantly clear that this show and the

global stage it provides is of critical importance to their vehicle launch strategies," said 2013 show chairman Jim Seavitt.

As expected, every vehicle type — more than 500 models total — will be displayed on more than 60 exhibitor stages throughout the 2.4 million square-foot Cobo Center.

Many manufacturers are keeping their reveal plans hidden in the garage, but a few details have leaked on what show visitors can expect. Following are some of the most anticipated vehicle debuts scheduled for Detroit.

## 2014 BMW 2 Series Coupe

Bavarian Motor Works is creating arguably the most buzz of any manufacturer as it readies to pull the covers off of not one, not two, but three important vehicle launches in Detroit. The most anticipated of the three surrounds the 2 Series, which is a two-door coupe designed and built to replace the aging 1 Series. The new car will be a late-2014-model-year arrival when it goes on sale in March. The 2 Series is about nine centimetres longer than the 1 Series and has more space between the front and rear wheels, meaning more cabin and storage space. Why call it a 2 Series? BMW is rejigging its number sequencing with even digits being assigned to two-door models. Two models will be available at launch: the base 228i; and the sportier M235i. BMW will also unveil its all-new M3 performance sedan and M4 coupe in Detroit.

## 2015 Mercedes-Benz C Class

Hoping to attract even more popularity to its best-selling model, Mercedes-Benz will introduce an all-new longer and wider C Class coupe that the company touts as "a bold departure from its predecessor," a classic model that has already sold more than 2.4 million units worldwide. By adding more aluminum in construction — almost 50 per cent compared to 10 per cent in the outgoing C Class car — the new vehicle sheds about 100 kilograms from the existing model, a weight reduction that Mercedes-Benz says will help cut fuel consumption by about 20 per cent and greatly improve handling and agility. An air suspension will be available

for the first time in the C Class, with three engine options to choose from at launch. The C180 and the C200 models feature 1.6- and 1.9-litre powerplants. The C220 CDI carries a 2.1-litre turbo-diesel. A hybrid model will also be added to the C Class catalog later this year.

## 2015 Lexus RC F

Based on a couple of teaser photos from Lexus, the RC F is a high-performance version of the RC coupe that was unveiled at the Tokyo Motor Show in November. According to Autoblog.com, the new RC F will be the hit of the Lexus lineup in Detroit, with a V8 engine that will produce up to 460



The Corvette was the star of the 2013 Detroit show, but don't underestimate a new Z06 model that could steal the thunder for 2014.

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horsepower, and with similar styling and design cues featured on the LF-CC concept car that was unveiled at the 2012 Paris Motor Show.

## 2015 Honda Fit

Honda promises that its third-generation Fit will feature fresher styling, more space and improved fuel efficiency. An all-new platform and powertrain is also expected to improve performance for a popular subcompact that has sold nearly five million units in 123 different countries since its introduction in 2001. As the new-car buyer continues to crave lower fuel consumption, Honda

promises that the new Fit hybrid will not only deliver terrific efficiency but better performance and some of the best safety features in its class. Add to these four anticipated production models the debuts of some intriguing concept vehicles such as the bold-looking John Cooper Works model from Mini and the Formula One racing inspired Q50 from Infiniti, and the hosts of NAIAS vow that the 2014 show will be want for nothing. "It's what we've been working on since last January," Shuman said of the massive event preparations. "This show is going to rock."



The Lexus RC coupe was unveiled in November, but a high-performance RC F will launch in Detroit. ALL IMAGES WHEELBASE

## Quoted

"The manufacturers continue to show their confidence in the NAIAS, and will once again bring their absolute best to Detroit's world stage."

Bob Shuman, chairman of this year's show



# All hail the plow: Snow body does it better

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When the weather turns icy, you simply toss some salt on your driveway. But municipalities have to do far more than that to keep the streets clear whenever snow and ice are in the forecast.

"We use two forms of salt," says Uldis Siksna, manager of maintenance and operations for the Region of Durham. "We have salt brine and solid rock salt."

Before a storm or freezing temperatures arrive, trucks spray brine on dry roads, a process known as anti-icing. "This liquid salt dries up and leaves the salt residue on the road, which shows up as white lines," Siksna says. "You're trying to prevent a

## Did you know?

- **Beware the road less travelled.** Cars crush road salt, which accelerates the melting process. Lightly-travelled roads may be slippery because larger salt crystals are still sitting on top.

- **You need the know how to manage a plow.** Snow plows are complex machines, with numerous controls to operate the main plow, the wing plows, the salt spinner and the pre-wetter.

- **Pickled sand.** Areas that use sand often put down "pickled sand," which has a small amount of salt added to keep it from clumping.

bond from forming between the roadway and any freezing rain, snow, or ice pellets. It's easier to keep the surface of the road clear when it's time to plow."

Once the snow flies, plows go out to clear it away, and to scatter rock salt on the road. Some trucks spray liquid brine onto the rock salt just

before it's spread, which is called pre-wetting. This helps keep the salt from bouncing too much, and also speeds up the melting process.

Salt lowers the freezing point of water, which is why salted ice melts at temperatures below freezing, but it does have its limits. Salt is basically ineffective below -20 C.

Municipalities with very

cold winter temperatures use sand instead, which provides traction. It's more environmentally-friendly than salt, which can damage concrete and vegetation, but it's not viable in milder regions, where it would regularly wash off the roads and need to be re-applied. "There are huge costs associated with getting rid of sand," Siksna says, adding that it clogs storm drains.

Each municipality has its own routines for handling snow and ice, which can depend on what type of trucks it has and how many, the type of roads, and its budget. Some add calcium chloride to their brine, which works at even lower temperatures, while a few, including Toronto, use a liquid made from sugar beets.

It's easier on the environment than salt, but far more

expensive. But no matter where you are, one rule applies: be cautious around snow plows. "People try to pass a plow, and they're passing on a portion that hasn't been cleared," Siksna says. "They lose control and they hit the plow, or they hit someone head-on, or they go into the ditch. Eventually the plow finishes its circuit and turns off, so stay behind it."

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Careful when over-taking a snow plow. BOTH PHOTOS: REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF DURHAM



A truck sprays anti-icing brine on the road prior to a big freeze.



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## Reduce travel travails

To keep the kids and possibly yourself occupied on long road trips, try turning off your various electronic devices once in a while and instead bring out the Auto Bingo travel game from Kids Love Travel. Each reusable game card requires the player to spot different items they might see on the journey, such as road signs, vehicle types (police car, fire truck, bus), buildings, animals and so on. And there's no need for tokens or messy markers to keep score as you simply slide a tinted plastic cover over the image. Choose from traffic safety, interstate and general-interest themes. A set of four Auto Bingo cards sells for \$8 plus shipping. Order Auto Bingo at [kidslovetravel.com](http://kidslovetravel.com).



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a number of retail and online sources including [ebay.com](http://ebay.com). For the full Tail-Mate story, go to [truckcover-susa.com](http://truckcover-susa.com).

## GT40 timepiece

The Ford Motor Company spent millions of dollars to develop a car that would beat Ferrari and become the first U.S. entry to win the yearly 24 Hours of Le Mans endurance race. In 1966 that goal was realized, with the Ford taking the top-three spots with its teams piloting GT40 racecars. To honor that nearly half-century-old event, California-based scale specialty-car maker Exoto has created the Anton Grey Mk II Sports Chronograph. Only 66 watches will be offered for sale, with each featuring the winning GT40's number (driven by New Zealand's Bruce McLaren and Chris Amon). Other features include a large 44-millimeter face and a black stitched leather strap. The Anton Grey sells for \$7,800, or a scale replica of the winning GT40 is \$1,000. Visit [exoto.com](http://exoto.com).



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## Horoscopes

### Aries

March 21 - April 20

The full moon's influence will pull your emotions first one way then the other over the next 48 hours. So the safest course of action is to ignore them completely and act only on what your head tells you.

### Taurus

April 21 - May 21

You would like nothing better than to turn your back on the past and start again but you know it isn't practical. Make the most of the situation you find yourself in. It's not that bad.

### Gemini

May 22 - June 21

You may lose your temper with someone who lets you down. But don't feel bad about it because you are not the only one whose emotions are up in the air. Even Gemini's get annoyed once in a while.

### Cancer

June 22 - July 23

What happens tomorrow, when the moon is full in your sign, may seem extreme. But who says life is fair? Others have the power to make the rules and you don't, so adapt.

### Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23

You will fall out with someone today, most likely because you cannot agree on issues of a philosophical nature. Fortunately, you will also find it easy to make up and be friends again.

### Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

As tomorrow's full moon cuts across one of the outspoken areas of your chart, you won't be tactful when dealing with people whose opinions you do not share. But why should you be when you are right?

### Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

Are you in charge of your emotions or are they in charge of you? If you are honest, it will most likely be the latter. Whatever happens, don't let your fears damage your career.

### Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

The tensions in one area of your life have almost reached breaking point but that need not be as bad as it sounds. In fact, it could even be good if it clears away all the resentments you've been saving up these past few months.

### Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

Tomorrow's full moon makes it likely that you will clash with someone over money. But don't take it seriously because in a matter of days neither of you will be able to remember what it was all about.

### Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

Don't let your emotions get the better of you over the next few of days. Others can rush about like it's the end of the world but you will remain cool and with full self-control.

### Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

You seem to be in a fighting mood but don't lose sight that while some things are worth fighting for, others are not. Pick your battles carefully and make sure your enemy is worthy.

### Pisces

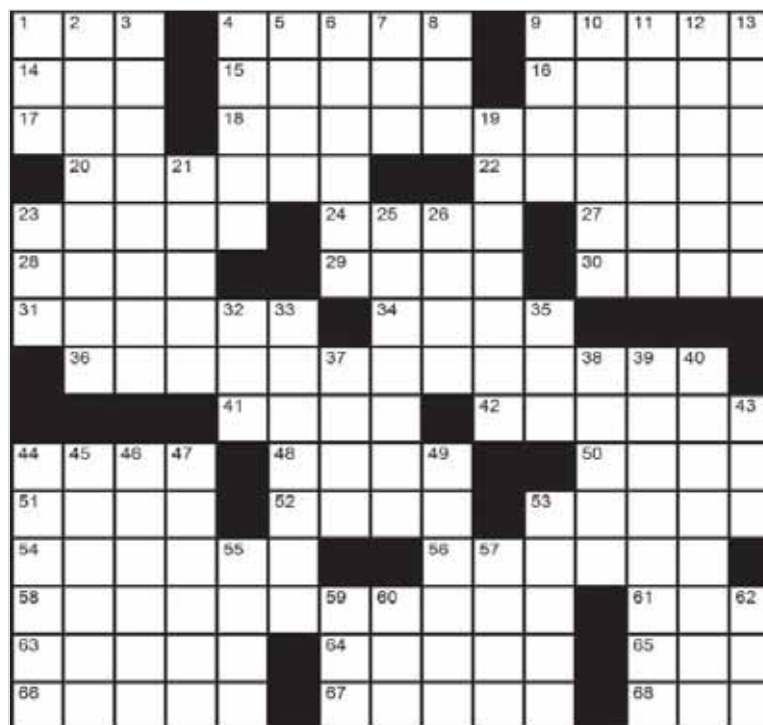
Feb. 20 - March 20

It will pay you to steer clear of touchy subjects over the next 48 hours. There are things going on that you disapprove of but will get involved on an emotional level change anything? No. **SALLY BROMPTON**

## Crossword: Canada Across and Down

### Across

1. Cooling device
4. Soldier date for Barbie: 2 wds.
9. Store areas [abbr.]
14. Author Mr. Levin
15. Wearer of the black tutu in Swan Lake
16. Love, in Venice
17. Montreal area, lettered
18. Origin for medical-grade marijuana: 2 wds.
20. Bean-yielding trees
22. Sheepish response to "Where'd that last piece of cake go?": 3 wds.
23. "Sheesh.": 2 wds.
24. Eden offspring
27. Ms. Sommer
28. Crying sounds
29. Songwriter, Jimmy
30. Crate strip
31. Hamilton radio station, K-\_\_\_\_\_
34. Ancient Greece's war god
36. 18-3224 \_\_\_\_: Purple hue that is Pantone's 'Color of the Year' for 2014
41. And others, for short
42. Bug's midsection
44. Dress lines
48. Nautical ropes
50. Alone
51. Nursemaid



52. Mixture
53. \_\_\_\_ Park (Thomas Edison's home/lab site in New Jersey)
54. Change a moniker
56. Ukraine port city
58. Type of police bust: 2 wds.
61. Sundial number

63. Like an omelet
64. Was resentful, \_\_\_\_ grudge
65. \_\_\_\_ (Julius Erving, to basketball fans)
66. Ms. Witherspoon
67. Bathroom cleanser

68. "Omigod!"
- Down
1. In shape
2. Football-on-TV watcher, \_\_\_\_ quarter-back
3. Community in BC's Okanagan Valley

4. Middle East: \_\_\_\_ Heights
5. Thought: Prefix
6. \_\_\_\_ puzzle
7. 'Pay' suffix
8. Three-lettered fish
9. Olympic swimming great Ms. Torres
10. Overacts

11. Coastal city of BC, \_\_\_\_ River
12. Three-horsed Russian carriage
13. Set of seven
19. Stage show collaborators, \_\_\_\_ & Sullivan
21. Surveyed
23. Night flapper
25. 1964: "Ladies and gentlemen... The \_\_\_\_!"
26. River of Spain
32. Giant's cry of disgust
33. 1497: John Cabot's ship, The \_\_\_\_
35. Principal's employer, for short
37. Quebec water brand
38. Sprays
39. TV series that starred Canadian actor Raymond Burr
40. Canadian Senator/humanitarian, Romeo \_\_\_\_
43. Tic-Tac-Toe line
44. Current PM
45. Arise
46. Horsemanship academy
47. Sunglasses
49. Sandbanks
53. Athlete's prize
55. Formed
57. "Thank You" songstress
59. Oilers org.
60. King: Spanish
62. Alphabetic trio

See today's answers at [metronews.ca/answers](http://metronews.ca/answers).  
BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

## Yesterday's Crossword



## Sudoku

### How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

## Yesterday's Sudoku



## Weather

TODAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY



MAX: 4°  
MIN: 4°



MAX: 5°  
MIN: -1°



MAX: 2°  
MIN: -3°



MICHELE MCDUGALL  
WEATHER SPECIALIST

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